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The National Geography Standards

Standards

1-8

There are 18 National Geography Standards. All 18 standards are covered in this book. Each standard is covered in one unit. Each unit has a series of Activity exercises. The Activity exercises were designed to meet student expectations as listed by the National Geography Standards. Listed below and on page 7 are the standards taught and reinforced in this book.

The World in Spatial Terms

Standard 1: How to use maps and other geographic representations, tools, and technologies to acquire, process, and report information

Standard 2: How to use mental maps to organize information about people, places, and environments

Standard 3: How to analyze the spatial organization of people, places, and environments

Places and Regions

Standard 4: The physical and human characteristics of a place

Standard 5: That people create regions to interpret Earth's complexity

Standard 6: How culture and experience influence people's perception of places and regions

Physical Systems

Standard 7: The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface

Standard 8: The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems on Earth's surface



The National Geography Standards *(cont.)*

Standards

9-18

Human Systems

- Standard 9:** The characteristics, distribution, and migration of human populations on Earth's surface
- Standard 10:** The characteristics, distributions, and complexity of Earth's cultural mosaics
- Standard 11:** The patterns and networks of economic interdependence on Earth's surface
- Standard 12:** The process, patterns, and functions of human settlement
- Standard 13:** How forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of Earth's surface

Environment and Society

- Standard 14:** How human actions modify the physical environment
- Standard 15:** How physical systems affect human systems
- Standard 16:** The changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources

The Uses of Geography

- Standard 17:** How to apply geography to interpret the past
- Standard 18:** To apply geography to interpret the present and plan for the future



Directions and Where Things Are

What I Need to Know

Vocabulary

- density

What I Do

About Where Things Are

Think about where you live. You live on a street. People live all around you. Some live to the north. Some live to the south. Some live to the west. Some live to the east. We can tell where people live by looking at certain kinds of maps.

We can use maps to show where things come from. We can use maps to show where cities are. We can use maps to show how many things there are in one area.

Read and complete each Activity. When you are done, you will have seen different kinds of maps. You will have seen a street map, a subway map, and a zoo map. You will be able to tell where things are on maps.



Name _____ Date _____

Activity 1

Dan lives in Fruitville. Look at the map of Fruitville. Find Dan’s house.

Dan’s house is on

- A. Apple Street
- C. Cherry Street
- B. Orange Street
- D. Banana Street

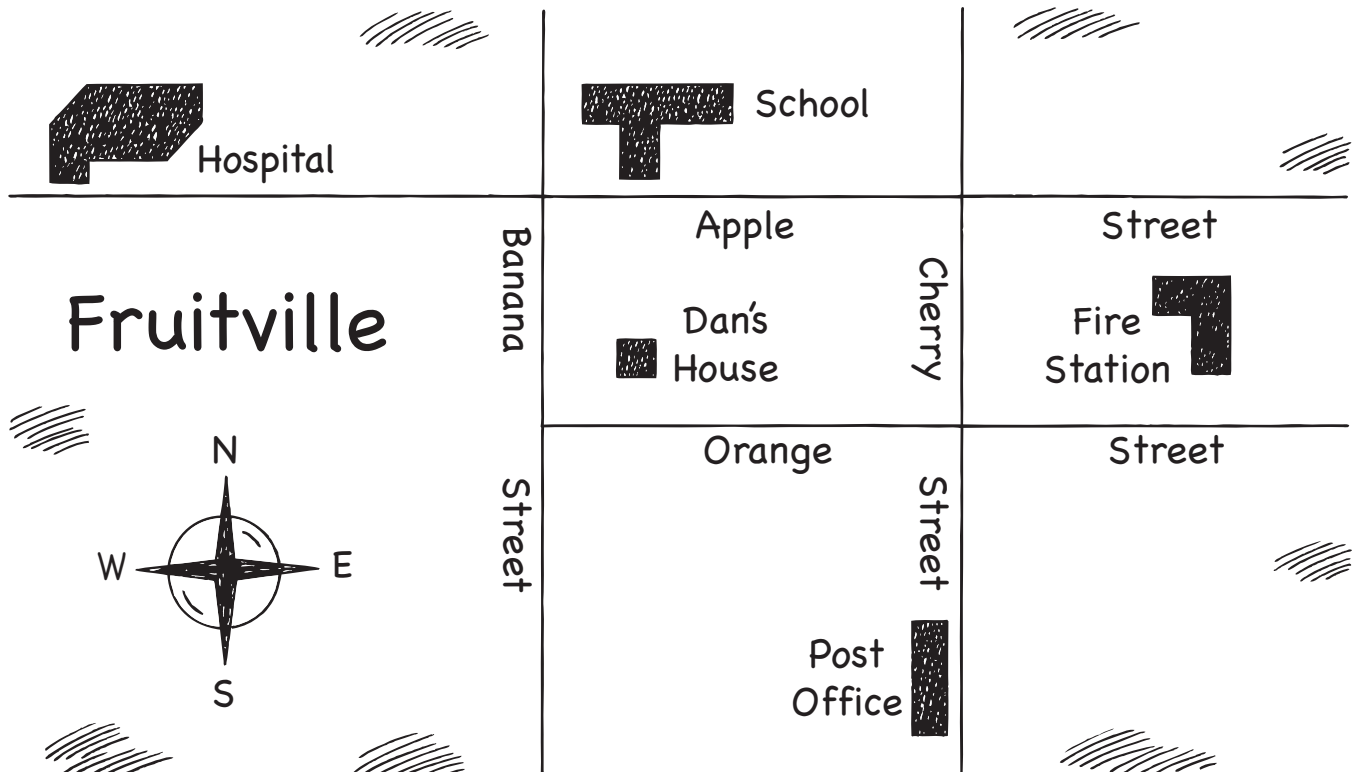
Which place is on Dan’s street?

- A. school
- C. post office
- B. hospital
- D. fire station

Write *north, south, east, or west*.

The school is _____ of Dan’s house.

The hospital is _____ of the school.





Name _____ Date _____

Activity 2

Look at the map. Find Antberg. Find Beeberg. Find Butterflyberg.

Which place would be the easiest to visit?

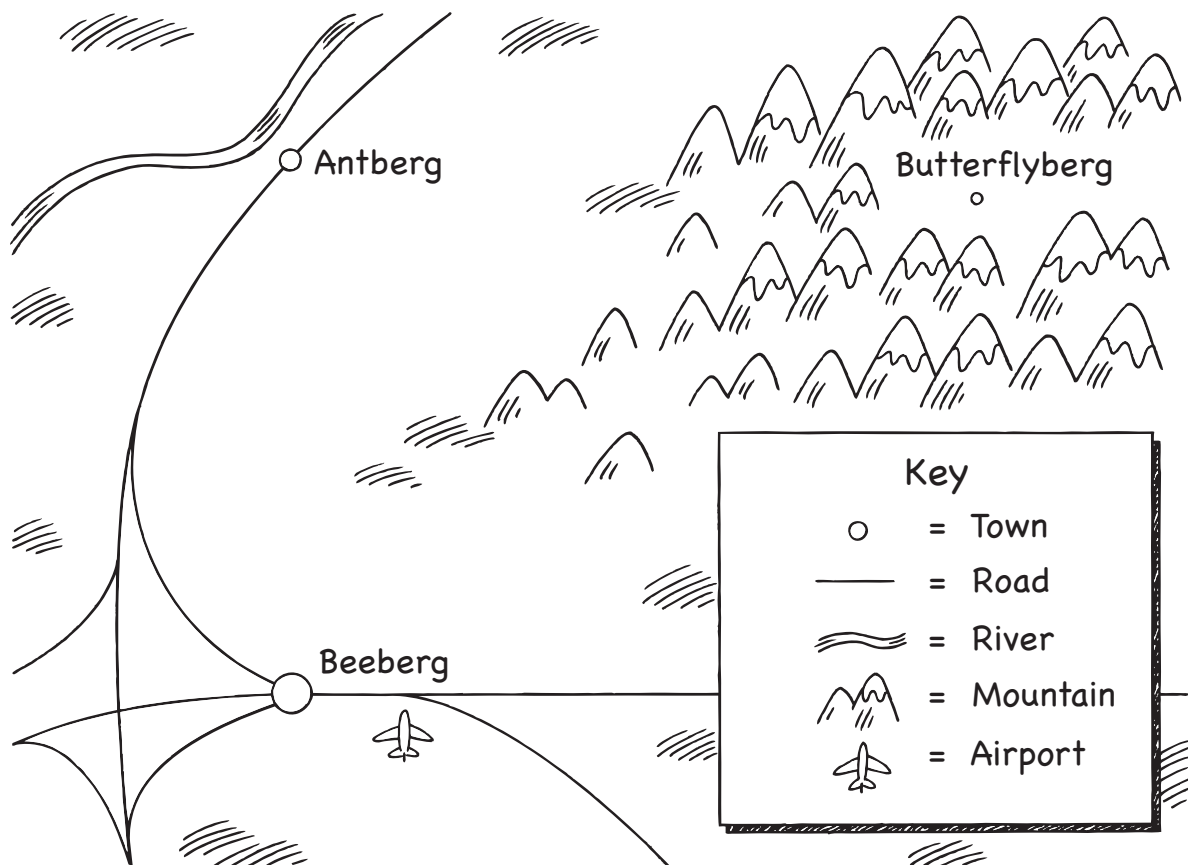
- A. Antberg
- B. Beeberg
- C. Butterflyberg

Why? _____

Which place would be the hardest to visit?

- A. Antberg
- B. Beeberg
- C. Butterflyberg

Why? _____





Different Places, Different People

What I Need to Know

Vocabulary

- erode
- desert
- nomad
- region
- polar
- prairie
- plain
- cool grasslands
- tropical grasslands
- valley

What I Do

About Different Places and People

Some places are hot. Some places are cold. The places have different regions, or areas. Different plants and animals live in different regions.

Regions shape what people do and how they live. Some regions are good places to grow food. In some regions, it is too cold or too hot to grow food. More people live in some regions than in other regions.

Read and complete each Activity. When you are done, you will know how an island was born, about different kinds of grasslands, and how you and a giraffe are alike.



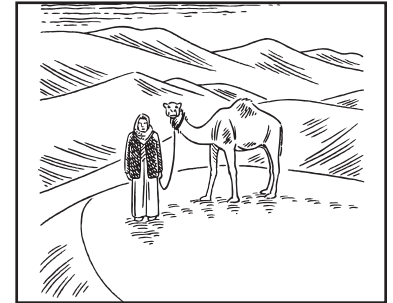
Name _____ Date _____

Activity 3

Think of a place. The place is hot. There are no rivers. There are no lakes. There is little water. There is little rain. It is very dry. There is lots of sand.

What type of place is this?

- A. a desert
- B. a forest
- C. a grassland
- D. a rain forest



Look at the map. The map shows **deserts**. There are deserts all around the world. Often, people who live in deserts are **nomads**. Nomads do not stay in one place.

They move from place to place.

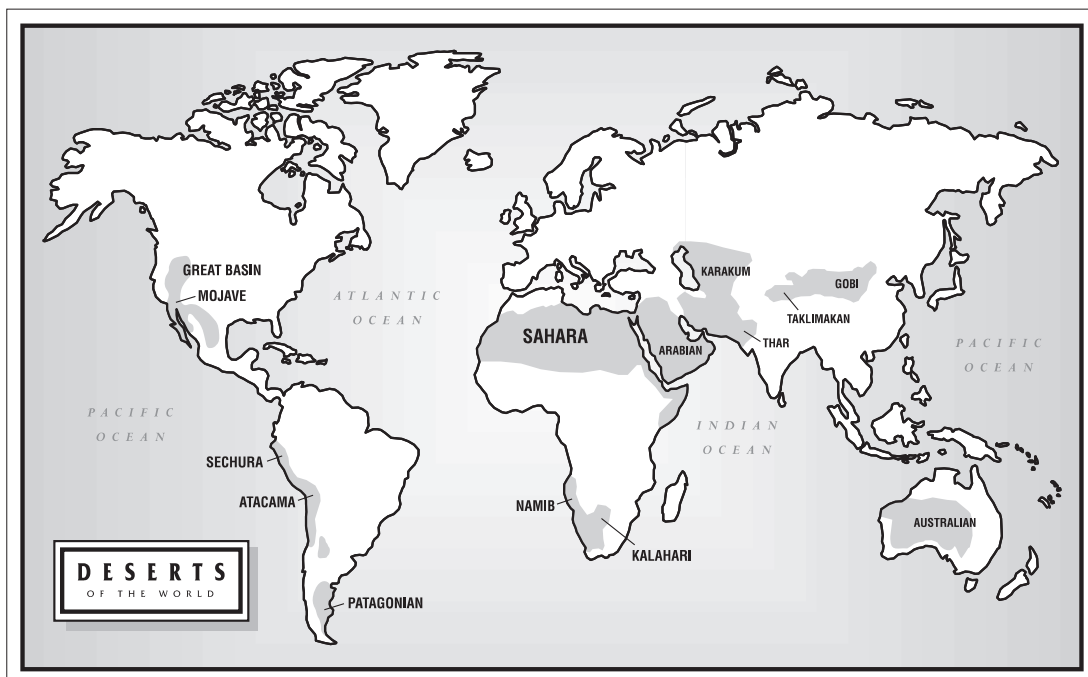
Why might desert nomads move from place to place? They move

- A. to find water
- B. to see more sand
- C. to find the hottest place
- D. to see how far they can go

What type of house would be good for a nomad?

- A. a wood house
- B. a tent house
- C. a stone house

Why would this be a good house for a nomad? _____



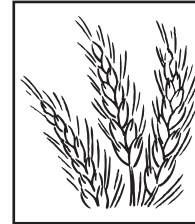


Name _____ Date _____

Activity 5

The Great Plains is a region in the United States. The Great Plains is a **prairie**. A prairie is a treeless **plain**. A plain is a nearly flat region of land. A prairie is made of grassland. The Great Plains is a **cool grassland** region. Cool grassland regions have warm summers and cold winters. Most cool grasslands have been changed. Why?

Cool grasslands are good places to grow crops. Wheat and oats are grown. Corn and soybeans are grown. Wild animals used to eat the grass. Today, cows, sheep, horses, and goats eat the grass. They eat crops grown on the grasslands, too.



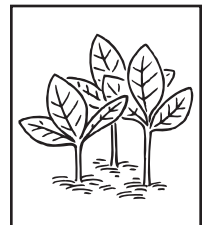
wheat



corn



oats



soybeans

Which wild animal used to feed on the Great Plains?

- A.** cow **B.** goat **C.** sheep **D.** buffalo

Bread is made from wheat. Where was the wheat grown?

- A.** hot desert **B.** frozen desert **C.** high mountains **D.** cool grasslands

Color the Great Plains on the map.

Do you live on the Great Plains? _____

